



South End Neighborhood Council (SENC) regular meeting

August 20, 2018

Members present: Earl Brydson, Janis Clark , Penny Grellier, Cary Nilson, Tyler Whitmarsh, Tony Caldwell, Christina Rupp

Absent: Eric Paulsen, Athena Brewer, Suzanne Skaar

Call to Order 7:04pm

Quorum present

Announcements: Earl reminds us that on October 13, at 2pm, mural project at Moore Library will have unveiling. City Manager will be here at our meeting in September discussing budget. Need nomination committee for Board officer elections.

Approval of June, July Minutes: motion Daniel, second Tyler, approved.

Treasurer's report: Janis reports checking \$2982.79, savings \$4116.99. Earl noticed an error in the checkbook ledger as compared with the bank statement. Earl will examine this, accounting for recent insurance and water expenses. Daniel asks to have an update at next meeting. Suzanne can turn in her expenses from the conference to Carol Wolf for reimbursement (\$1000 reimbursement to SENC from City for first-time attendee). Motion Cary, second Penny, approved.

Committee reports: none

Liaison Reports:

Fire Dept.: Ray, Battalion Chief for South End, haze from forest fires is bad tonight, 190ppm and getting worse. Check on vulnerable neighbors. Thanks for invitations to National Night Out events. Fire threat is high: remove dead vegetation from around house, move wood piles and propane tanks, prune large trees, cut back greenbelts for fire break, keep lawn watered or cut short, for those living adjacent to greenbelts, cut vegetation back at least 10 feet for fire break, cut trees away from roof and power lines, consider evacuation plan from home and neighborhood. Don't park cars on high grass area (catalytic converter can catch fire). If you smoke, don't throw butts out of window while driving. Majority of fires on our area are caused by cigarette butts.

Check airnow website for latest info for your area. HEPA filter masks (HEPA 95 and 100) are the type needed for these conditions.

Readerboard to be updated with SENC message soon.

Police Dept.: none

Metro Parks Tacoma: none

Tacoma Public Utilities: John, he is available to meet and talk as needed, how he can best serve us (business cards available). October 15: new director will attend to introduce herself.

City Manager/City staff: Bucoda Warren, budget hearing at our meeting in September (good way to get your voice heard), also extra hearings around town (see City website for locations/dates); tenants rights hearings in a week; Manitou annexation; revamping the Neighborhood Report format (let Bucoda know your ideas).

Code compliance: a number of nuisance and code violation cases were opened, others closed. Lincoln Revitalization will finish Jan/Feb 2019, construction done at end of November. By December 31, City project office in Lincoln neighborhood will be closed. Lincoln Park may get updates in future.

Tacoma Public Schools: school board meeting August 23; back to school Sept. 6; jumpstart program for kids going into K, 6th or 9th grade to get used to new school before it begins. Budget survey on TPS website; please take it. New Burney Elementary broke ground in June and will open late Fall 2019. Boze is in planning phase now; construction starts Spring 2019. Browns Point 60% complete. Grant broke ground in June. Stay up to date on www.buildforachievement.com.

Update on Whitman playgrounds: locked and monitored after school hours due to vandalism and safety concerns. This is the only playground for kids in the area so would like to offer an alternative.

Safe Streets: none

Port of Tacoma: none

Guest speakers:

Tacoma Creates initiative (not present)

Mary Burnham, Gas Station Park, Safe Street block coordinator for Stewart group, covers gas station park and there is a group of neighbors who want to beautify/improve it. Would like to plant trees. City owns the park; SENCo bought it from the County and fixed it up, City took ownership. Gargoyles group maintains it but Earl has noticed it has not been kept up. Earl asks if this group would like to take over the maintenance. Trash can is emptied by City (SENCo pays for it). Why isn't MetroParks maintaining it as is usual with City-owned parks? Group can meet with Earl to figure out how they would like to participate. Tyler would like to help out.

Community Concerns: backyard break-in included fire, TPD responded. Neighbors alerted.

Janis reported car vandalism to two of her vehicles while parked at her brother's home.

General Business

Old Business: Earl met with a project manager from PSE who wanted to know what our Neighborhood Council works on; she may attend our meetings sporadically to give Port updates (LNG plant). We would like a representative to come to a SENCo meeting so all can benefit from the information sharing.

New Business: nominating committee needed (3 people) for elections in November. Janis would like to Chair, Christina and Tyler will join. Cheryl Kopeck (community member) will join. Bylaws on how to run this committee will be followed. Present slate of those running, voted upon in January. Janis needs a list of which positions are up for re-election and names.

A request was made by Christina for publication of 2017 Annual Report for SENCo as neither it nor the budget are available on the website. Earl said it was submitted to the City and he will follow up.

Respectfully submitted by

Penny Grellier, Recording Secretary